



**Georgia Department
of Human Services**
Office of General Counsel

DHS Rule Changes

Office of General Counsel

Stephen Harris, General Counsel



stronger families

FOR A STRONGER GEORGIA



Rule Change Procedure

1. Board Considers Motion to Publish Proposed Rule
2. 30-Day Public Comment Period
3. Public Hearing
4. Motion for Final Adoption of Proposed Rule
5. Send Final Rule to Secretary of State



Initial – Safe Place for Newborns

Act Provides Immunity from Prosecution When an Infant Child is Given to Participating Medical Facility, Police Station or Fire Station

O.C.G.A. § 19-10A-8 Requires DHS to Create Standards for Signs Alerting Public of Safe Haven Locations
Current Rule Effective November 1, 2018

Current Rule:

- 290-1-9.01
- Contains basic language

Rule Published February 17 –
March 18

Proposed Change:

- Provides more detail
- DHS to also amend logo
- Aligns with national efforts
- Allows use of previous signs

Public Hearing March 17



Initial – Safe Place for Newborns

**SAFE PLACE
TO LEAVE YOUR NEWBORN**



UNDER THE GEORGIA SAFE PLACE FOR NEWBORNS ACT

**YOU MUST GIVE YOUR
NEWBORN TO STAFF**

SAFE HAVEN SITE

THIS IS A SAFE PLACE FOR NEWBORNS
LOCATION



If you are in crisis and feel you need to leave your newborn in the care and custody of the state, please find a staff member to assist you. The Georgia Safe Place for Newborns Act allows a child's mother to leave her baby, up to 30 days old, with an employee of this facility.

You may remain anonymous.

Effective Date June 2020



Request to Board

Motion to Publish Notice of Rulemaking

- Safe Place for Newborns Signage – Rule 290-1-9-.01



Questions

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